AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

In the Claims:

This listing of the claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

Listing of the Claims:

1. (Currently amended) A method for reducing a non-central nervous system tumor mass comprising the step of administering to a patient suffering from cancer a therapeutically effective amount of a Herpes simplex virus (HSV) comprising a modified HSV genome wherein said modification comprises a modification of an inverted repeat region of said HSV genome such that the region is rendered incapable of expressing an active gene product from only one copy each of ~~ICP0~~ $\alpha 0$, ~~ICP4~~ $\alpha 4$, ORF-O, ORF-P, and $\gamma_1 34.5$, and further comprising a $U_L 24$ gene and a $U_L 56$ gene each rendered incapable of expressing an active gene product, and an insertion of HSV-2 genes $U_S 2$, $U_S 3$, $U_S 4$ and $U_S 5$, wherein said administering results in one or more tumor cells infected with said HSV, said amount of HSV being effective to reduce the non-central nervous system tumor mass and safe for administration to the patient.

2-4. (Canceled)

5. (Currently amended) The method of claim 1~~, 3, or 4~~ wherein the modified HSV genome further comprises deletion of [[a]] an HSV-1 gene selected from the group consisting of [[$\alpha 0$,]] $U_L 2$, $U_L 3$, $U_L 4$, $U_L 10$, $U_L 11$, $U_L 12$, $U_L 12.5$, $U_L 13$, $U_L 16$, $U_L 20$, $U_L 21$, $U_L 23$, [[$U_L 24$,]] $U_L 39$, $U_L 40$, $U_L 41$, $U_L 43$, $U_L 43.5$, $U_L 44$, $U_L 45$, $U_L 46$, $U_L 47$, $U_L 50$, $U_L 51$, $U_L 53$, $U_L 55$, [[$U_L 56$,]] $\alpha 22$, $U_S 1.5$, $U_S 2$, $U_S 3$, $U_S 4$, $U_S 5$, $U_S 7$, $U_S 8$, $U_S 8.5$, $U_S 9$, $U_S 10$, $U_S 11$, $\alpha 47$, $Ori_S TU$, and LATU.

6-9. (Canceled)

10. (Currently amended) The method of claim 5 wherein the gene is selected from the group consisting of $U_L 16$, [[$U_L 24$,]] $U_L 40$, $U_L 41$, $U_L 55$, [[$U_L 56$,]] $\alpha 22$, $U_S 4$, $U_S 8$, and $U_S 11$.

11-15. (Canceled)

16. (Previously presented) The method of claim 1 wherein the modified HSV is administered to the tumor by direct injection.

17. (Previously presented) The method of claim 1, wherein the non-central nervous system tumor is an epidermal carcinoma.

18. (Previously presented) The method of claim 1, wherein the non-central nervous system tumor is a prostate adenocarcinoma.

19. (Previously presented) The method of claim 1, wherein the non-central nervous system tumor is a hepatoma adenocarcinoma.

20. (Previously presented) The method of claim 1, wherein the HSV is administered in combination with irradiation.

21. (Previously presented) The method of claim 1, wherein the HSV is administered in the absence of irradiation.

22. (Currently amended) A method for treating a patient with a radiation-resistant epidermal cancer comprising administering to a patient suffering from the radiation-resistant cancer a therapeutically effective amount of a Herpes simplex virus (HSV) comprising a modified HSV genome wherein said modification comprises a modification of an inverted repeat region of said HSV genome such that the region is rendered incapable of expressing an active gene product from only one copy each of ~~ICP0~~ $\alpha 0$, ~~ICP4~~ $\alpha 4$, ORFO, ORFP, and $\gamma_1 34.5$, and further comprising a $U_L 24$ gene and a $U_L 56$ gene each rendered incapable of expressing an active gene product, and an insertion of HSV-2 genes $U_S 2$, $U_S 3$, $U_S 4$ and $U_S 5$, wherein said administering results in one or more tumor cells infected with said HSV, said amount of HSV being effective to reduce the non-central nervous system tumor mass and safe for administration to the patient.

23. (Previously presented) The method of claim 21, wherein the HSV is administered in combination with irradiation.

24. (New) The method of claim 1 or claim 22 wherein the modified HSV genome is a HSV having the genotype of the virus deposited under American Type Culture Collection (A.T.C.C.) Accession Number VR2123.